

Mr. [Bill] THOMAS [of California]. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 196) permitting the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 196

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on October 27, 1999, for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford. Physical preparations for the ceremony shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽²⁾ Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMAS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. KILDEE) each will control 20 minutes. . . .

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

§ 25. Presidential Inaugurations

Inaugural ceremonies have evolved since George Washington gave his first inaugural address on Apr. 30, 1789, and his second on Mar. 4, 1793.

After Washington's first inauguration, the Mar. 4 date was

2. Judith Biggert (IL).

used for subsequent Presidential inaugurations until 1933.⁽¹⁾ The ratification of the 20th Amendment in 1933 mandated that the Presidential term begin at noon on Jan. 20.⁽²⁾

From the 1829 inauguration of Andrew Jackson through the 1977 inauguration of Jimmy Carter, the primary Inauguration Day ceremony took place on the Capitol's East Portico.⁽³⁾

1. The ratification of the 12th Amendment in 1804 mandated that the Presidential term expire on Mar. 4. U.S. Const. amend. XII.
2. U.S. Const. amend. XX. See also *House Rules and Manual* § 150 (2007).
3. The fourth inauguration of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1945 was a notable exception. Because World War II was at its height, Roosevelt had a simple inauguration ceremony at the White House with no fanfare or formal celebration. See 91 CONG. REC. 364, 365, 79th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 22, 1945.

Ronald Reagan's second inaugural in 1985 was the coldest on record, with an estimated noon temperature of seven degrees Fahrenheit and wind chills well below zero. Because Jan. 20, 1985, fell on a Sunday, President Reagan was sworn in privately on that date at the White House and had scheduled his public inauguration ceremony for Monday, Jan. 21. The cold weather forced the ceremony to be moved indoors to the Capitol Rotunda, and limited space dictated that it be a semi-private ceremony. See 131 CONG. REC. 630–

Since the 1981 inauguration of Ronald Reagan, the ceremony has been held on a terrace on the Capitol's West Front.⁽⁴⁾

In preparation for the ceremonies, a joint committee is created months in advance of the event.⁽⁵⁾ The committee is established by concurrent resolution in the preceding Congress and the authority continues in the following Congress by a continuing resolution.⁽⁶⁾

On inauguration morning, the House proceeds to participate in the ceremonies and stands adjourned at the conclusion of the ceremony pursuant to an adjournment resolution.⁽⁷⁾

At the designated hour of the morning, the Senate and House leave their respective Halls each to attend the ceremonies.

The House procession is traditionally headed by the Sergeant at Arms bearing the mace and led by the Speaker pro tempore (who is oftentimes the Dean of the House), followed by the House leadership, committee chairmen,

ranking minority members, and other Members in order of seniority.⁽⁸⁾ The officers of the House have participated in the procession as well.⁽⁹⁾

The Vice Presidential oath of office has been administered variously by the outgoing Vice President,⁽¹⁰⁾ by a Senator from the Vice President's home state,⁽¹¹⁾ by the Senate Minority Leader,⁽¹²⁾ by the Speaker of the House,⁽¹³⁾ and by a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.⁽¹⁴⁾

8. See, e.g., § 25.8, *infra*.

9. *Ibid*.

10. 91 CONG. REC. 364, 365, 79th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 22, 1945 (retiring Vice President Henry A. Wallace); 87 CONG. REC. 188–190, 77th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 29, 1941 (retiring Vice President John N. Garner).

11. 103 CONG. REC. 804–806, 85th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 21, 1957 (U.S. Senator William F. Knowland); 99 CONG. REC. 450–452, 83d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1953 (U.S. Senator William F. Knowland).

12. 115 CONG. REC. 1288–92, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1969 (Senate Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen).

13. See 151 CONG. REC. 295–298, 109th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 2005 (Speaker Hastert); 123 CONG. REC. 1861–63, 95th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1977 (Speaker O'Neill); and 111 CONG. REC. 984–986, 89th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1965 (Speaker McCormack).

14. See, e.g., 147 CONG. REC. 547–549, 107th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 22, 2001

633, 99th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 21, 1985. See also *House Rules and Manual* § 159 (2007).

4. See 127 CONG. REC. 540–543, 97th Cong. 1st Sess.

5. See § 25.1, *infra*.

6. See § 25.4, *infra*.

7. See § 25.7, *infra*.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court has administered the oath to the President at every regularly scheduled inauguration since Chief Justice Oliver Ellsworth swore in President John Adams in 1797.

Following the swearing-in, the President makes an inaugural address.

In the closing, a well-known American musical group or person may perform a patriotic musical or poetic selection.

A benediction is pronounced and the ceremony comes to an end.

Joint Committee for Inaugural Ceremonies

§ 25.1 The House, by unanimous consent, considered and agreed to a Senate concurrent resolution establishing a Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies.

On Mar. 16, 2004,⁽¹⁾ the following proceedings occurred:

(Chief Justice Rehnquist); 143 CONG. REC. 470–473, 105th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1997 (Associate Justice Ginsburg); and 119 CONG. REC. 1658–61, 93d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1973 (Chief Justice Burger).

1. 150 CONG. REC. 4380, 108th Cong. 2d Sess.

ESTABLISHING JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

Mr. [Robert W.] NEY [of Ohio]. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 94) establishing the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽²⁾ Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON RES. 94

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

There is established a Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (in this resolution referred to as the "joint committee"), consisting of 3 Senators and 3 Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. The joint committee is authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

SEC. 2. SUPPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

The joint committee—

- (1) is authorized to utilize appropriate equipment and the services of appropriate

For other examples, see 146 CONG. REC. 2720, 2721, 106th Cong. 2d Sess., Mar. 14, 2000 (S. Con. Res. 89); 142 CONG. REC. 21405, 104th Cong. 2d Sess., Aug. 2, 1996 (S. Con. Res. 47); 138 CONG. REC. 16712, 102d Cong. 2d Sess., June 29, 1992 (S. Con. Res. 103).

2. Chris Chocola (IN).

personnel of departments and agencies of the Federal Government, under arrangements between the joint committee and the heads of the departments and agencies, in connection with the inaugural proceedings and ceremonies; and

(2) may accept gifts and donations of goods and services to carry out its responsibilities. . . .

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.⁽³⁾

Appointments to Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies

§ 25.2 The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of members to the Joint Committee on Inaugural Arrangements.

On Mar. 16, 2004,⁽¹⁾ the Chair announced the Speaker's appointments to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies:

3. *Parliamentarian's Note:* The concurrent resolution has no effect beyond a Congress in which it is agreed to. A new concurrent resolution continuing the joint committee at the beginning of the Congress must be adopted at the beginning of the next Congress. See § 25.4, *infra*.

1. 150 CONG. REC. 4381, 108th Cong. 2d Sess.

For other examples, see 146 CONG. REC. 7055, 106th Cong. 2d Sess., May 8, 2000; and 142 CONG. REC. 22372, 104th Cong. 2d Sess., Sept. 10, 1996.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽²⁾ Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 94, 108th Congress, and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies:

Mr. HASTERT, Illinois;

Mr. DELAY, Texas;

Ms. PELOSI, California.

On Jan. 4, 2005,⁽³⁾ the Members of the Joint Committee were reappointed, as follows:⁽⁴⁾

REAPPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF JOINT COMMITTEE TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENT FOR THE INAUGURATION ON JANUARY 20, 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽⁵⁾ Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 2, 109th Congress, the Chair announces the Speaker's reappointment as members of the joint committee to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States on the 20th day of January, 2005, the following Members of the House:

Mr. HASTERT of Illinois,

2. Chris Chocola (IN).

3. 151 CONG. REC. 68, 69, 109th Cong. 1st Sess.

4. For another example, see 139 CONG. REC. 104, 103d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 5, 1993.

5. Ray LaHood (IL).

Mr. DELAY of Texas,
Ms. PELOSI of California.

*Use of the Rotunda by the
Joint Congressional Com-
mittee on Inaugural Cere-
monies*

**§ 25.3 The House, by unani-
mous consent, considered
and agreed to a Senate con-
current resolution author-
izing the use of the Capitol
Rotunda and other Federal
resources in connection with
Presidential inaugural cere-
monies on Jan. 20, 2005.**

Several months before the inau-
guration, the House considered
and agreed to a concurrent resolu-
tion authorizing the use of the
Capitol Rotunda in connection
with the Presidential inaugural
ceremonies as a predicate on
which to plan and to prepare for
logistics and security.

On Mar. 16, 2004,⁽¹⁾ the fol-
lowing proceedings took place:

1. 150 CONG. REC. 4380, 108th Cong.
2d Sess. See § 25.4, *infra*, for the
continuing resolution related to this
concurrent resolution.

For other examples, see 146 CONG.
REC. 2721, 106th Cong. 2d Sess.,
Mar. 14, 2000 (S. Con. Res. 90); 142
CONG. REC. 21405, 104th Cong. 2d
Sess., Aug. 2, 1996 (S. Con. Res. 48;
138 CONG. REC. 16712, 102d Cong.
2d Sess., June 29, 1992 (S. Con. Res.
103).

**AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL
ROTUNDA BY JOINT CONGRES-
SIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUG-
URAL CEREMONIES**

Mr. [Robert W.] NEY [of Indiana].
Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous con-
sent to take from the Speaker's table
the Senate concurrent resolution (S.
Con. Res. 93) authorizing the use of
the rotunda of the Capitol by the Joint
Congressional Committee on Inaugural
Ceremonies, and ask for its immediate
consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Sen-
ate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER *pro tempore*.⁽²⁾ Is
there objection to the request of the
gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concur-
rent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 93

*Resolved by the Senate (the House
of Representatives concurring),*

**SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAP-
ITOL BY THE JOINT CONGRES-
SIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL
CEREMONIES.**

The rotunda of the United States Capitol is
authorized to be used on January 20, 2005, by
the Joint Congressional Committee on Inau-
gural Ceremonies in connection with the pro-
ceedings and ceremonies conducted for the
inauguration of the President-elect and the
Vice President-elect of the United States.

Mr. [JOHN B.] LARSON of Connecticut.
Madam Speaker, I support S. Con. Res. 93,
which authorizes planning for the use of the
Capitol Rotunda on January 20, 2005, for the
proceedings and ceremonies conducted for
the inauguration of the President and Vice
President of the United States. We traditionally
pass this measure to begin the period of secu-
rity planning and rehearsal for the inaugural,
since the Rotunda is routinely used for cere-
monial purposes during the inauguration and
could host the event itself, depending on the
weather at that time.

2. Chris Chocola (IN).

The 108th Congress does not formally authorize use of the Rotunda through this measure, since it will expire on January 3, 2005, like all concurrent resolutions which are not made part of permanent law and must be renewed in the 109th Congress. However, it initiates the period of pre-event planning necessary to bring one of our democracy's most memorable and historic ceremonies to fruition smoothly and safely. I urge its adoption.

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

§ 25.4 The House considered and agreed to a privileged Senate concurrent resolution continuing the authority of the Joint Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the authority to use the Capitol Rotunda for such ceremonies.

On Jan. 4, 2005,⁽¹⁾ the following proceedings took place:

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested: . . .

1. 151 CONG. REC. 7, 109th Cong. 1st Sess. See also §§ 25.1, 25.3, *supra*.

For other examples of similar continuing resolutions, see 147 CONG. REC. 37, 38, 107th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 3, 2001 (S. Con. Res. 2); 143 CONG. REC. 143, 105th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 7, 1997 (S. Con. Res. 2); 139 CONG. REC. 100, 103d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 5, 1993 (S. Con. Res. 2); 135 CONG. REC. 84, 101st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 3, 1989 (S. Con. Res. 2).

S. Con. Res. 2. Concurrent resolution to extend the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the provisions of S. Con. Res. 93 and S. Con. Res. 94 of the One Hundred Eighth Congress . . .

PROVIDING FOR CONTINUATION OF JOINT COMMITTEE TO MAKE INAUGURATION ARRANGEMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore⁽²⁾ laid before the House the following privileged⁽³⁾ Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) to extend the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the provision of S. Con. Res. 93 and S. Con. Res. 94 of the One Hundred Eighth Congress.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 2

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That effective from January 3, 2005, the joint committee created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 94 (108th Congress), to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration, is hereby continued with the same power and authority provided for in that resolution.

SEC. 2. Effective from January 4, 2005, the provisions of Senate Concurrent Resolution 93 (108th Congress), to authorize the rotunda of the United States Capitol to be used in connection with the proceedings

2. Ray LaHood (IL).
3. *Parliamentarian's Note:* The concurrent resolution for the continuation of the joint committee is privileged as essential to the role of Congress in the inauguration.

and ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States, are continued with the same power and authority provided for in that resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Senate concurrent resolution is concurred in.

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Vice Presidential Inauguration Included

§ 25.5 Ceremonies for the inauguration of both the President and the Vice President are now held on the steps of the Capitol.⁽¹⁾

On Feb. 3, 1956,⁽²⁾ the concurrent resolution providing for the joint inaugural planning committee was amended in the Senate to provide for the inclusion of the Vice President-elect:

**JOINT COMMITTEE TO ARRANGE
FOR INAUGURATION OF THE
PRESIDENT-ELECT**

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 64) providing for a joint committee to arrange for the inauguration of the President-elect of the United States, January 20, 1957, was announced as next in order. . . .

1. The Vice President was inaugurated in the Senate Chamber until Jan. 20, 1937.
2. 102 CONG. REC. 1958, 84th Cong. 2d Sess.

Mr. [William H.] KNOWLAND [of California]. Mr. President, I should like to offer an amendment on line 6, after the word "President-elect", to add the words "and Vice President-elect."

Originally, the Vice President of the United States was inaugurated in the Senate Chamber, but in recent years the inaugural ceremonies for both the President-elect and the Vice President-elect have been held on the steps of the Capitol building. . . .

Mr. KNOWLAND. Mr. President, I conferred with the ranking Republican member of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER.⁽³⁾ The clerk will state the amendment offered by the Senator from California.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. It is proposed to insert in line 6, after the word "President-elect", the words "and Vice President-elect."

The amendment was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 64), as amended, was agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, etc., That a joint committee consisting of 3 Senators and 3 Representatives, to be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively, is authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States on the 25th day of January 1957.

Sunday Inauguration Date

§ 25.6 Debate occurred in the Senate concerning Inauguration Day 1957 falling on a

3. Frederick G. Payne (ME).

Sunday for the fifth time in history.⁽¹⁾

On Feb. 16, 1956,⁽²⁾ Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 was called up by unanimous consent, and the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the House amendment thereto. The proceedings were as follows:

JOINT COMMITTEE TO ARRANGE FOR INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Mr. [Theodore F.] GREEN [of Rhode Island]. Mr. President, I desire to have Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 called up.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BIBLE⁽³⁾ in the chair). The unfinished business is Senate Resolution 168, Calendar 1408.

Mr. [Earle C.] CLEMENTS [of Kentucky]. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the unfinished business be temporarily laid aside, so that Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 may be considered, in accordance with the wish of the Senator from Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the amendment of the House of Representatives to the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 64) providing for a joint committee to arrange for the inauguration of the President-elect of the United States,

January 20, 1957, which was in line 7, to strike out "twentieth" and insert "twenty-first".

Mr. GREEN. Mr. President, let me say that Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 has been agreed to by both the Senate and the House of Representatives, and amendments to the concurrent resolution have been adopted by both bodies.

The concurrent resolution as submitted by me, and passed as agreed to by the Senate on February 3, 1956, provided for a joint committee to arrange for the inauguration of the President-elect of the United States, on January 20, 1957. On that day I was absent from the Senate, having been excused in order to attend the inauguration of the new President of Brazil. In my absence, Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 was amended to include the Vice-President-elect.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 64, as amended by the Senate, was agreed to by the House of Representatives on February 7, 1956, after it was further amended by the House to change the date in the text of the resolution from "January 20, 1957" to "January 21, 1957." The concurrent resolution is now back before the Senate for consideration of the House amendment.

I have no objection to either the Senate amendment, which added the Vice-President-elect, or to the House amendment, which changed the date from January 20, 1957, to January 21, 1957. I believe, however, that a statement in clarification of my position and of proposed further amendments, which I am about to offer, is in order.

As my colleagues in the Congress well know, under the Constitution, as

1. See *House Rules and Manual* § 150 (2007). See also 3 Hinds' Precedents § 1996; and 6 Cannon's Precedents § 449.
2. 102 CONG. REC. 2668, 2669, 84th Cong. 2d Sess.
3. Alan H. Bible (NV).

amended, the terms of the President and the Vice President end at noon on the 20th day of January 1957, and the terms of the President-elect and the Vice-President-elect begin at the same instant—Constitution of the United States, amendment XX, effective October 15, 1933; 62d United States Statutes at Large, page 672; title 3, United States Code, section 101. Accordingly, although I was well aware when I submitted Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 that the 20th day of January, in the year 1957, would fall on a Sunday. I employed that date in my resolution because it was fixed by the established law.

In 1957, for the first time since the ratification of the 20th amendment, January 20 will fall on a Sunday in an inaugural year. Under the old law, when Presidents of the United States were inaugurated on March 4, there were four occasions on which March 4 fell on a Sunday in an inaugural year. The former occasions were: In 1971, Woodrow Wilson's second term; in 1877, Rutherford B. Hayes' first term; in 1849, Zachary Taylor's first term; and in 1821, the beginning of James Monroe's second term.

In 1916, a Senate concurrent resolution was adopted by the Congress providing for a committee to arrange for the inauguration of the President elect, which carried in its text the date "March 5, 1917." I refer to Senate Concurrent Resolution 27 of the 64th Congress. President Wilson actually took his oath of office as President, however, at the Capitol, on Sunday morning, March 4, 1917. Present at the occasion were his Cabinet and a few friends. On the next day, Monday, March 5, 1917, the inaugural ceremony

was repeated in public for the benefit of the crowd which assembled at the east front of the Capitol.

On the three prior occasions in our history when March 4 fell on a Sunday in an inaugural year, there were no similar concurrent resolutions. In 1877, President Hayes took the oath of office on Saturday, March 3. Chief Justice Waite administered the oath in the red room of the White House. On the following Monday, March 5, the Chief Justice again swore President Hayes in at the formal ceremony on the occasion of the President's Inaugural Address.

In 1849, President Taylor did not take his oath of office until Monday, March 5, at 12 noon. It took place at the public inauguration ceremonies in front of the great portico. This occasion gave rise to a claim, apparently never completely resolved, that Senator David R. Atchison, President pro tempore of the Senate, was, under the Succession Act of 1792, actually President of the United States for 1 day, beginning at noon on March 4, 1849.

In 1821, President Monroe took the oath of office on March 5.

Today, the ending and beginning of a Presidential and Vice Presidential term is clearly defined in the 20th amendment to the Constitution which provides:

The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January * * * and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

In my humble opinion, if the President-elect of the United States does not take his oath of office until noon on Monday, January 21, 1957, then, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law

199 of the 80th Congress, the Speaker of the House of Representatives will actually be the President of the United States from noon on January 20, 1957, until noon on the following day. Of course, I have no objection to having the Honorable SAM RAYBURN occupy the White House and only regret that his term of office, under those circumstances, would be so short lived. To those who are opposed to SAM RAYBURN'S elevation to this high office, I can only say that they will have to use irresistible persuasion on the next President-elect to make him take his oath of office at noon on Sunday, January 20, 1957.

Because the people of the State of Rhode Island, the smallest State in the Union, have no aversion to a citizen of the largest State taking possession of the White House, and because I feel that Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 provides for a committee to make arrangements for the public ceremonies attendant upon the assumption of office by a new President, I now suggest that the Senate agree to the amendment adopted by the House. In order to avoid any misunderstanding or any possible interpretation of Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 which would affect the law on Presidential succession, however, I offer an amendment to the resolution, as follows: On page 1, line 6, before the word "inauguration", insert the word "public."

In addition, I offer a further amendment, as follows: In the title of Senate Concurrent Resolution 64, before the word "inauguration" insert the word "public"; after the words "President-elect", insert the words "and Vice President-elect"; and, after the word "January", strike the date "20", and insert instead the date "21."

I ask unanimous consent that my amendments to Senate Concurrent Resolution 64 be now considered and approved; and that Senate Concurrent Resolution 64, as amended, be agreed to, by the Senate.

Mr. [William F.] KNOWLAND [of California]. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. GREEN. I yield.

Mr. KNOWLAND. I was wondering if the Senator would care to amplify the reasons for inserting the word "public," rather than, in the original language, merely referring to the "inauguration." As the Senator will recall, at the fourth inaugural of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, he determined to have the ceremony at the White House, since it was a case of reelection to the office. No one knows who the next President of the United States may be. He may be a reelected President or a new President.

Mr. GREEN. The idea is that with these four amendments—two of which have already been adopted, and the two I now offer—it will be possible to distinguish between the public inauguration and privately taking the oath in the White House or anywhere else the President-elect might choose. Of course, we would not want to do away with the public inauguration. Otherwise, as I have tried to make clear, this ambiguity might make it possible for the claim to be made that someone else than the elected President was President during that one day.

Mr. KNOWLAND. All I wish to do is clarify the legislative history. Let us assume, for the moment, that President Eisenhower were reelected, and that he might choose, as President

Franklin D. Roosevelt did, to have an inaugural ceremony at the White House instead of at the Capitol. Would the language suggested by the Senator foreclose the joint committee from such arrangements?

Mr. GREEN. No. As I understand, he could take the oath privately in the White House on Sunday, January 20, and later a public inauguration could be held, the next day. We might distinguish between the two ceremonies, and call one the inauguration and the other the affirmation, or celebration of the inauguration.

Mr. KNOWLAND. I understand that. However, because of the fact that January 20 falls on Sunday, the President-elect might privately take the oath of office on Sunday, and have the public or formal ceremonies the following day.

Mr. GREEN. We might call that the installation.

Mr. KNOWLAND. But suppose the present President should be reelected, as occurred during the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration, and that he should choose to have the ceremony at the White House. Would that be foreclosed under the language suggested by the Senator?

Mr. GREEN. No; it would not be foreclosed. He might forego the public inauguration if he so desired.

Mr. [Leverett] SALTONSTALL [of Massachusetts]. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. GREEN. I yield.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. I think the Senator from Rhode Island has made it clear, but in order to make the Record still clearer, let me ask one or two questions.

The President would take his oath on Sunday and become the President of the United States, whether he were a reelected President or a new President.

Mr. GREEN. That is correct.

Mr. SALTONSTALL. In connection with the public inauguration on Monday, is it the Senator's idea that the President-elect should again take the oath, or would the ceremonies on Monday be ceremonies of celebration, when he should make his speech and go through with all the other ceremonies?

Mr. GREEN. I think the public would like to see him take the oath over again. However, I do not think it is necessary legally.

Mr. [Herbert H.] LEHMAN [of New York]. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. GREEN. I yield.

Mr. LEHMAN. We have had some experience with matters of this kind in the State of New York.

The Constitution of the State of New York provides that the term of a governor shall end at midnight on December 31. However, he is not inaugurated until noon of the following day. Invariably the Governor, whether he be a new governor or a governor who has held office previously, has taken his oath of office at the executive mansion at 1 minute after 12 o'clock midnight December 31, and has been publicly inaugurated the following day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The first amendment offered by the Senator from Rhode Island will be stated.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. On page 1, line 6 before the word "inauguration" it is proposed to insert the word "public."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is not in order, because

the Senate cannot amend its own concurrent resolution after it has been agreed to by the House.

Mr. GREEN. Mr. President, may I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be held to be in order, if a point of order is raised?

Mr. CLEMENTS. Will the Chair state the parliamentary situation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair has held that the amendment offered by the Senator from Rhode Island [GREEN] adding the word "public" is not in order.

Mr. KNOWLAND. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will state it.

Mr. KNOWLAND. If the Senate does not concur in the House amendment and requests a conference with the House, would it be possible for the conferees to make the change?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair is advised that the conferees would not have any authority to take into consideration any amendments which were not in disagreement.

Mr. CLEMENTS. Mr. President, will the Chair state the procedure that should be followed in connection with this matter?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair is advised that all that the Senate may consider is the amendment of the House of Representatives, which is before it.

Mr. GREEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I may withdraw my amendment, and merely move that the Senate concur in the House amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

Mr. GREEN. I believe the understanding is perfectly clear on the RECORD without the use of the word "public." I move that the Senate concur in the amendment of the House of Representatives.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion of the Senator from Rhode Island.

The motion was agreed to.

Inaugural Procedures Reviewed

§ 25.7 The House considered and adopted a privileged resolution providing that at a designated time on Inauguration Day the House shall proceed to the West Front of the Capitol to attend the ceremony, and that at the conclusion of the ceremony the House shall stand adjourned until a day and time certain pursuant to an adjournment resolution.

On Jan. 4, 2005,⁽¹⁾ the House considered and adopted a privileged resolution providing that at a designated time on Inauguration Day the House shall proceed to the West Front of the Capitol to attend the ceremony, and that at the conclusion of the ceremony the House shall stand adjourned until

1. 151 CONG. REC. 69, 109th Cong. 1st Sess.

a day and time certain pursuant to an adjournment resolution:⁽²⁾

PROVIDING FOR ATTENDANCE
AT INAUGURAL CEREMONIES
ON JANUARY 20, 2005

Mr. [Tom] DELAY [of Texas]. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution

2. *Parliamentarian's Note:* In an improvement over prior years' resolutions, this one acknowledged the role of a concurrent resolution of adjournment in providing for the House to stand adjourned for more than three constitutional days (as opposed to appearing itself to grant such permission). For illustrations of the previous practice, see 147 CONG. REC. 38, 107th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 3, 2001 (H. Res. 10, providing that the House shall stand adjourned to a day certain "or pursuant to such other concurrent resolution of adjournment as may then apply"); 143 CONG. REC. 143, 105th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 7, 1997 (H. Res. 8, providing for adjournment until a date and time certain without reference to an adjournment resolution); 139 CONG. REC. 104, 103d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 5, 1993 (H. Res. 10, providing for procession to the West Front for the inauguration but not adjournment); 135 CONG. REC. 244, 101st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 19, 1989 (H. Res. 40, providing for adjournment until a date and time certain without reference to an adjournment resolution); and 131 CONG. REC. 418, 99th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 3, 1985 (H. Res. 10, providing for adjournment until a date and time certain without reference to an adjournment resolution).

(H. Res. 9) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 9

Resolved, That at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2005, the House shall proceed to the West Front of the Capitol for the purpose of attending the inaugural ceremonies of the President and Vice President of the United States; and that upon the conclusion of the ceremonies the House stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, pursuant to such concurrent resolution of adjournment as may so permit.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

On that same day,⁽³⁾ the House adopted a privileged concurrent resolution providing for the adjournment of the House for more than three days until Inauguration Day, and then from Inauguration Day to a date certain more than three days hence:

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE
TWO HOUSES

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 2) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 2

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

3. 151 CONG. REC. 69, 109th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 4, 2005.

That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, January 6, 2005, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2005, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; that when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, January 20, 2005, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Thursday, January 6, 2005, or Friday, January 7, 2005, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Thursday, January 20, 2005, or at such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

§ 25.8 The Chair announced the policy for the seating of

Members (and former Members) for the inaugural ceremonies.

On Jan. 20, 2005,⁽¹⁾ the Chair made an announcement regarding the assembling and attendance of the House at the inaugural ceremonies on the East Front of the Capitol.⁽²⁾

The SPEAKER pro tempore.⁽³⁾ The Chair announces that sitting Members are being delivered their official pins in order to be seated on the platform. There are no extra seats available, so former Members cannot join the procession. The same holds true for children. They can neither go with the procession nor be seated on the platform.

The area where Members of the House are to be seated is not covered. Members should keep this fact in mind in deciding whether to wear overcoats and hats.

The Sergeant-at-Arms will precede the procession bearing the mace. The Clerk will escort the Members to the west front of the Capitol. The procession will be led by the dean of the

1. 151 CONG. REC. 267, 109th Cong. 1st Sess.
2. For other illustrations, see 147 CONG. REC. 163, 107th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 2001; 143 CONG. REC. 381, 105th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1997; 139 CONG. REC. 381, 103d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1993; 135 CONG. REC. 324, 325, 101st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1989; and 131 CONG. REC. 690, 99th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 21, 1985.
3. Michael K. Simpson (ID).

House, followed by the House leadership, committee chairmen, ranking minority members, and then other Members in order of seniority.

The House leadership, committee chairmen, and ranking minority members shall retire to the holding room upon leaving the Chamber.

The Chair would encourage Members, as they gather in order of seniority, to congregate by “classes” in the well.

Pursuant to House Resolution 9, the Members of the House will now proceed to the west front to attend the inaugural ceremonies for the President and the Vice President of the United States.

Upon completion of the ceremony, pursuant to House Resolution 9, 109th Congress, the House will stand adjourned.

Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 2, 109th Congress, that adjournment will be until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2005.

Thereupon, at 10 o'clock and 22 minutes a.m., the Members of the House, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Speaker, proceeded to the west front of the Capitol.

Appointment of Speaker Pro Tempore

§ 25.9 The Speaker has designated the Dean of the House as Speaker pro tempore to lead the House procession to the inauguration of the President and the Vice President.

On Jan. 19, 1989,⁽¹⁾ the Speaker designated the Dean of the House to act as Speaker pro tempore when the House convened just prior to the inaugural ceremonies, as follows:⁽²⁾

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO LEAD HOUSE “PROCESSION” IN INAUGURATION CEREMONY

The SPEAKER.⁽³⁾ The Chair designates the Honorable JAMIE L. WHITTEN, of Mississippi, dean of the House, to act as Speaker pro tempore on Friday, January 20, 1989, to lead the House procession to the Inauguration of the President of the United States.

Clerk Authorized to Receive Messages

§ 25.10 The Clerk is authorized to receive messages from the

1. 135 CONG. REC. 244, 101st Cong. 1st Sess.
2. For other examples, see 131 CONG. REC. 420, 99th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 3, 1985 (designating Jamie L. Whitten [MS] as Speaker pro tempore on Inauguration Day); 127 CONG. REC. 405, 97th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 19, 1981 (designating Jamie L. Whitten [MS] as Speaker pro tempore on Inauguration Day); 119 CONG. REC. 1555, 93d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 18, 1973 (designating Wright Patman [TX] as Speaker pro tempore on Inauguration Day); and 115 CONG. REC. 1184, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 17, 1969 (designating Emanuel Celler [NY] as Speaker pro tempore on Inauguration Day).
3. James C. Wright, Jr. (TX).

President and the Senate, notwithstanding adjournment of the House, prior to Inauguration Day.

Prior to the existence of such authority in the standing rules,⁽¹⁾ the Clerk was routinely authorized to receive message by unanimous consent. For example, on Jan. 17, 1969,⁽²⁾ the Speaker⁽³⁾ recognized Mr. Carl Albert, of Oklahoma, who asked unanimous consent that the Clerk be authorized to receive certain messages:

MR. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the adjournment of the House until Monday, January 20, 1969, the Clerk be authorized to receive messages from the President and the Senate.

THE SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Inaugural Ceremonies

§ 25.11 Ceremonies for the inauguration of the President and Vice President.⁽¹⁾

1. See Rule II clause 2(h), *House Rules and Manual* § 652 (2007).
2. 115 CONG. REC. 1184, 91st Cong. 1st Sess.
3. John W. McCormack (MA).
1. For other examples of inauguration programs, see 151 CONG. REC. 295–298, 109th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 2005 (second inaugural of President

On Jan. 22, 2001,⁽²⁾ the following proceedings took place in the Senate:

Bush); 143 CONG. REC. 470–473, 105th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 21, 1997 (second inaugural of President Clinton); 139 CONG. REC. 383–386, 103d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1993 (first inaugural of President Clinton); 135 CONG. REC. 303–306, 101st Cong., 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1989 (inaugural of President George H.W. Bush); 131 CONG. REC. 630–633, 99th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 21, 1985 (second inaugural of President Reagan); 127 CONG. REC. 540–543, 97th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1981 (first inaugural of President Reagan); 123 CONG. REC. 1861–63, 95th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1977 (inaugural of President Carter); 119 CONG. REC. 1658–61, 93d Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1973 (second inaugural of President Nixon); 115 CONG. REC. 1289–92, 91st Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1969 (first inaugural of President Nixon); 111 CONG. REC. 984–986, 89th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1965 (inaugural of President Johnson); and 107 CONG. REC. 1010–1013, 87th Cong. 1st Sess., Jan. 20, 1961 (inaugural of President Kennedy).

2. 147 CONG. REC. 547–549, 107th Cong. 1st Sess.

Parliamentarian's Note: The Senate portion of the *Congressional Record* carried the inaugural proceedings even though the Senate was not in session during those proceedings. The House customarily has not printed the proceedings, even though it customarily remains in session for their duration.

INAUGURAL CEREMONY

Mrs. [Kay Bailey] HUTCHISON [of Texas]. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the proceedings of Saturday's Inaugural Ceremony be printed in today's RECORD.

There being no objection, the proceedings of the Inaugural Ceremony were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

INAUGURATION CEREMONY, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2001, 11:47 A.M.

Members of the House of Representatives, Members of the Senate, Justices of the Supreme Court, nominees to the Cabinet, the Governors of the States, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other distinguished guests assembled on the West Front.

Mr. Martin Paone, Senate Secretary for the Majority, escorted Senator Clinton and Mrs. Gore, accompanied by Mrs. Clegg Dodd, Mrs. Gephardt, and Mrs. Daschle, to the President's platform.

Mrs. Elizabeth Letchworth, Senate Secretary for the Minority, escorted Mrs. Bush and Mrs. Cheney, accompanied by Mrs. McConnell (Elaine Chao), Mrs. Lott, Mrs. Hastert, and Mrs. Arney, to the President's platform.

Mr. Jay Eagen, House CAO, Mr. Gary Sisco, Secretary of the Senate, and Mr. Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House, escorted President Clinton and Vice President Gore, accompanied by Senator Dodd, Representative Gephardt, and Senator Daschle, to the President's platform.

Ms. Lani Gerst, Executive Director, JCCIC, Mrs. Loretta Symms, Senate Deputy Sergeant at Arms, and Ms. Kerri Hanley, House Deputy Sergeant at Arms, escorted Vice President-elect Cheney, accompanied

by Senator Lott and Representative Arney, to the President's platform.

Ms. Tamara Somerville, Chief of Staff, JCCIC, Mr. Jim Ziglar, Senate Sergeant at Arms, and Mr. Bill Livingood, House Sergeant at Arms, escorted President-elect Bush, accompanied by Senator McConnell, Senator Dodd, Speaker Hastert, and Senator Lott, to the President's platform.

Mr. [Mitch] McCONNELL [of Kentucky]. Everyone, please be seated so we can begin.

Welcome to the 54th inauguration of the President and the Vice President of the United States of America. Today we honor the past in commemorating two centuries of inaugurations in Washington, DC. As well, we embrace the future, this day marking the first inauguration of the 21st century and the new millennium.

America has now spanned four centuries, her promise still shining bright—beginning and present—linked by timeless ideals and faith. The enduring strength of our Constitution, which brings us to the West Front of the Capitol today, attests to the wisdom of America's founders and the heroism of generations of Americans who fought wars and toiled in peace to preserve this legacy of liberty. In becoming the 43rd President of the United States, George W. Bush will assume the sacred trust as guardian of our Constitution. Dick Cheney will be sworn in as our new Vice President. Witnessed by the Congress, Supreme Court, Governors, and Presidents past, the current President will stand by as the new President peacefully takes office. This is a triumph of our democratic Republic, a ceremony befitting a great nation.

In his father's stead, the Rev. Franklin Graham is with us today to lead the Nation in prayer. Please stand for the invocation.

Reverend Graham.

Reverend GRAHAM. Let us pray:

Blessed are You, O Lord our God. Yours, O God, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and Earth is Yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom. You are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from You. You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and to give strength to all.

As President Lincoln once said, we have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven. We have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power, as no other nation has ever grown, but we have forgotten God. It behooves us then to humble ourselves before the offended powers, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.

O Lord, as we come together on this historic and solemn occasion to inaugurate once again a President and Vice President, teach us afresh that power, wisdom, and salvation come only from Your hand.

We pray, O Lord, for President-elect George W. Bush and Vice President-elect Richard B. Cheney to whom You have entrusted leadership of this Nation at this moment in history. We pray that You will help them bring our country together so that we may rise above partisan politics and seek the larger vision of Your will for our Nation. Use them to bring reconciliation between the races, healing to political wounds, that we may truly become one nation under God.

Give our new President, and all who advise him, calmness in the face of storms, encouragement in the face of frustration, and humility in the face of success. Give them the wisdom to know and to do what is right and the courage to say no to all that is contrary to Your statutes and holy law.

Lord, we pray for their families, and especially their wives, Laura Bush and Lynne Cheney, that they may sense Your presence and know Your love.

Today we entrust to You President and Senator Clinton and Vice President and Mrs. Gore. Lead them as they journey through new doors of opportunity to serve others.

Now, O Lord, we dedicate this Presidential inaugural ceremony to You. May this be the beginning of a new dawn for America as we humble ourselves before You and acknowledge You alone as our Lord, our Saviour, and our Redeemer.

We pray this in the name of the Father and of the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Mr. McCONNELL. Thank you, Reverend Graham.

It is my distinct pleasure to introduce the Dupont Manual Choir of Louisville, KY.

(Performance by the Dupont Manual Choir of Louisville, KY.)

Mr. McCONNELL. I now call on Senator Christopher J. Dodd of Connecticut to introduce the Chief Justice of the United States.

Mr. DODD. Thank you, Senator McConnell.

President and Senator Clinton, Vice President and Mrs. Gore, President-elect and Mrs. Bush, and fellow citizens, the Vice President-elect will now take the oath of office. His wife, Lynne, and their daughters, Elizabeth Cheney Perry and Mary Cheney, will hold the family Bible. I have the honor and privilege to now present the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the Hon. William Hobbs Rehnquist, to administer the oath of office to the Vice President-elect, Richard Bruce Cheney.

(Applause.)

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST.
Mr. Cheney, are you ready to take the oath? –

Vice President-elect CHENEY. I am.

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST.
Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

The Chief Justice of the United States, William Hobbs Rehnquist, administered to the Vice President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

“I, Richard Bruce Cheney, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office of which I am about to enter. So help me God.”

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST.
Congratulations.

(The Marine Band performed “Hail Columbia.”)

(Applause.)

Mr. McCONNELL. Ladies and gentlemen, Staff Sergeant Alec T. Maly of the United States Army Band will now perform an American medley.

(Staff Sergeant Alec T. Maly sang a medley of American music.)

Mr. McCONNELL. It is now my high honor to again present the Chief Justice of the United States who will administer the Presidential oath of office. Everyone, please stand.

(Applause.)

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST.
Governor Bush, are you ready to take the oath?

President-elect BUSH. Yes, sir.

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST.
Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

The Chief Justice of the United States, William Hobbs Rehnquist, administered to the President-elect the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution, which he repeated, as follows:

“I, George Walker Bush, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States. So help me God.”

Mr. Chief Justice REHNQUIST. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

Mr. McCONNELL. Ladies and gentlemen, the President of the United States, George W. Bush.

(Applause.)

(Herald Trumpets play “Ruffles and Flourishes” and “Hail to the Chief,” and 21-gun salute.)

President BUSH. Thank you all.

Chief Justice Rehnquist, President Carter, President Bush—

(Laughter, applause.)

President Clinton, distinguished guests, and my fellow citizens:

This peaceful transfer of authority is rare in history, yet common in our country. With a simple oath, we affirm old traditions and make new beginnings.

As I begin, I thank President Clinton for his service to our Nation. –

(Applause.)

And I thank Vice President Gore for a contest conducted with spirit and ended with grace.

(Applause.)

I am honored and humbled to stand here, where so many of America’s leaders have come before me and so many will follow.

We have a place, all of us, in a long story; a story we continue, but whose end we will not see. It is the story of a new world that became a friend and liberator of the old, the story of a slave-holding society that became a servant of freedom, the

story of a power that went into the world to protect but not possess, to defend but not to conquer. It is the American story; a story of flawed and fallible people, united across the generations by grand and enduring ideals.

The grandest of these ideals is an unfolding American promise: that everyone belongs, that everyone deserves a chance, that no insignificant person was ever born.

Americans are called to enact this promise in our lives and in our laws. And though our Nation has sometimes halted, and sometimes delayed, we must follow no other course.

Through much of the last century, America's faith in freedom and democracy was a rock in a raging sea. Now it is a seed upon the wind, taking root in many nations.

Our democratic faith is more than the creed of our country, it is the in-born hope of our humanity; an ideal we carry but do not own, a trust we bear and pass along. And even after nearly 225 years, we have a long way yet to travel.

While many of our citizens prosper, others doubt the promise—even the justice—of our own country. The ambitions of some Americans are limited by failing schools, and hidden prejudice, and the circumstances of their birth. And sometimes our differences run so deep, it seems we share a continent, but not a country.

We do not accept this, and we will not allow it. Our unity, our union, is the serious work of leaders and citizens in every generation. And this is my solemn pledge: I will work to build a single nation of justice and opportunity.

(Applause.)

I know this is within our reach, because we are guided by a power larger than ourselves who creates us equal in His image.

And we are confident in principles that unite and lead us onward.

America has never been united by blood or birth or soil. We are bound by ideals that move us beyond our backgrounds, lift us above our interests, and teach us what it means to be citizens. Every child must be taught these principles. Every citizen must uphold them. And every immigrant, by embracing these ideals, makes our country more, not less, American.

(Applause.)

Today we affirm a new commitment to live out our Nation's promise through civility, courage, compassion, and character.

America, at its best, matches a commitment to principle with a concern for civility.

A civil society demands from each of us good will and respect, fair dealing and forgiveness.

Some seem to believe that our politics can afford to be petty because, in a time of peace, the stakes of our debates appear small. But the stakes, for America, are never small. If our country does not lead the cause of freedom, it will not be led. If we do not turn the hearts of children toward knowledge and character, we will lose their gifts and undermine their idealism. If we permit our economy to drift and decline, the vulnerable will suffer most.

We must live up to the calling we share. Civility is not a tactic or a sentiment. It is the determined choice of trust over cynicism, of community over chaos. And this commitment, if we keep it, is a way to shared accomplishment.

America, at its best, is also courageous.

Our national courage has been clear in times of depression and war, when defeating common dangers defined our common good. Now we must choose if the example of our fathers and mothers will inspire us or condemn us. We must show courage in a time of blessing by confronting

problems instead of passing them onto future generations.

(Applause.)

Together we will reclaim America's schools, before ignorance and apathy claim more young lives. We will reform Social Security and Medicare, sparing our children from struggles we have the power to prevent. And we will reduce taxes, to recover the momentum of our economy and reward the efforts and enterprise of working Americans.

(Applause.)

We will build our defenses beyond challenge, lest weakness invite challenge.

(Applause.)

We will confront weapons of mass destruction, so that a new century is spared new horrors.

The enemies of liberty and our country should make no mistake, America remains engaged in the world, by history and by choice, shaping a balance of power that favors freedom. We will defend our allies and our interests. We will show purpose without arrogance. We will meet aggression and bad faith with resolve and strength. And to all nations, we will speak for the values that gave our Nation birth.

(Applause.)

America, at its best, is compassionate.

In the quiet of American conscience, we know that deep, persistent poverty is unworthy of our Nation's promise. And whatever our views of its cause, we can agree that children at risk are not at fault. Abandonment and abuse are not acts of God; they are failures of love.

(Applause.)

And the proliferation of prisons, however necessary, is no substitute for hope and order in our souls.

Where there is suffering, there is duty. Americans in need are not strangers, they are citizens; not problems, but priorities. And all of

us are diminished when any are hopeless.

(Applause.)

Government has great responsibilities, for public safety and public health, for civil rights and common schools. Yet compassion is the work of a nation, not just a government. And some needs and hurts are so deep, they will only respond to a mentor's touch or a pastor's prayer. Church and charity, synagogue and mosque lend our communities their humanity, and they will have an honored place in our plans and in our laws.

(Applause.)

Many in our country do not know the pain of poverty. But we can listen to those who do. And I can pledge our Nation to a goal. When we see that wounded traveler on the road to Jericho, we will not pass to the other side.

(Applause.)

America, at its best, is a place where personal responsibility is valued and expected.

Encouraging responsibility is not a search for scapegoats; it is a call to conscience. And though it requires sacrifice, it brings a deeper fulfillment. We find the fullness of life, not only in options, but in commitments. And we find that children and community are the commitments that set us free.

Our public interest depends on private character; on civic duty and family bonds and basic fairness; on uncounted, unhonored acts of decency which give direction to our freedom. Sometimes in life we are called to do great things. But as a saint of our times has said, every day we are called to do small things with great love. The most important tasks of a democracy are done by everyone.

I will live and lead by these principles: to advance my convictions with civility; to pursue the public interest with courage; to speak for

greater justice and compassion; to call for responsibility, and try to live it as well. In all these ways, I will bring the values of our history to the care of our times.

What you do is as important as anything government does. I ask you to seek a common good beyond your comfort; to defend needed reforms against easy attacks; to serve your Nation, beginning with your neighbor. I ask you to be citizens—citizens, not spectators; citizens, not subjects; responsible citizens building communities of service and a nation of character.

(Applause.)

Americans are generous and strong and decent, not because we believe in ourselves, but because we hold beliefs beyond ourselves. When this spirit of citizenship is missing, no government program can replace it. When this spirit is present, no wrong can stand against it.

(Applause.)

After the Declaration of Independence was signed, Virginia statesman John Page wrote to Thomas Jefferson:

We know the race is not to the swift nor the Battle to the Strong. Do you not think an Angel rides in the Whirlwind and directs this Storm?

Much time has passed since Jefferson arrived for his inauguration. The years and changes accumulate, but the themes of this day he would know: our Nation's grand story of courage and its simple dream of dignity. We are not the story's author, who fills time and eternity with His purpose. Yet His purpose is achieved in our duty; and our duty is fulfilled in service to one another.

Never tiring, never yielding, never finishing, we renew that purpose today: to make our country more just and generous; to affirm the dignity of our lives and every life.

This work continues. This story goes on. And an angel still rides in the whirlwind and directs this storm.

God bless you all, and God bless America.

(Applause.)

Mr. McCONNELL. Please stand now as Pastor Kribyjon H. Caldwell will now deliver the benediction, and afterward, please remain standing for the singing of our National Anthem, after which the ceremony will be concluded. I call upon Senator Dodd to organize the Presidential party after the ceremony has ended to depart the platform.

Pastor Caldwell.

Pastor CALDWELL. Thank you, Senator McConnell.

Let us pray, please:

Almighty God, the supply and supplier of peace, prudent policy, and nonpartisanship, we bless Your holy and righteous name. Thank You, O God, for blessing us with forgiveness, with faith, and with favor. Forgive us for choosing pride over purpose. Forgive us for choosing popularity over principles. And forgive us for choosing materialism over morals. Deliver us from these and all other evils, and cast our sins into Your sea of forgetfulness to be remembered no more. And Lord, not only do we thank You for our forgiveness, we thank You for faith, faith to believe that every child can learn and no child will be left behind and no youth will be left out.

Thank You for blessing us with the faith to believe that all of Your leaders can sit down and reason with one another so that each American is blessed.

Thank You for blessing us with the faith to believe that the walls of inequity can be torn down and the gaps between the rich and the poor, the haves and the have-nots, the uneducated and the educated, can and will be closed.

And, Lord, lastly, we thank You for favor. We thank You for Your divine favor. Let Your favor be upon President Clinton and the outgoing administration. May they go forth in spiritual grace and civic greatness. And, of course, O Lord, let Your divine favor be upon President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Welch Bush and their family. We decree and declare that no weapon formed against them shall prosper. Let Your divine favor be upon the Bush team and all Americans with the rising of the Sun and the going down of the same. May we grow in our willingness and ability to bless You and bless one another.

We respectfully submit this humble prayer in the name that is above all other names, Jesus the Christ. Let all who agree say "Amen."

(Staff Sergeant Maly performed the National Anthem with accompaniment.)

(Applause.)

The inaugural ceremonies were concluded at 12:24 p.m.

§ 26. Vice Presidential Swearing-in Ceremonies

On Dec. 6, 1973, a joint meeting occurred in the House for the swearing-in of Gerald R. Ford as Vice President of the United States.⁽¹⁾ Ford was nominated pursuant to § 2 of the 25th Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. Similarly, on Dec. 19, 1974, the House was invited to the Senate Chamber for the swearing-in of Nelson Rocke-

feller as Vice President of the United States.⁽²⁾

For a discussion on the process for Presidential nominations for Vice President, see Ch. 10, § 4, *supra*.

§ 26.1 The Speaker announced that during the joint meeting for the swearing-in of Gerald R. Ford as Vice President on the following day, only certain doors would be open and only persons with floor privileges would be permitted in the Chamber.

On Dec. 5, 1973,⁽¹⁾ the following occurred:

The SPEAKER.⁽²⁾ The Chair desires to make an announcement.

After communication with the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent and approval, the Chair announces that on tomorrow, December 6, during the joint meeting to be held in connection with the swearing in of the Vice President, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House except those persons having the privilege of the floor of the House.

2. See § 26.3, *infra*.

1. 119 CONG. REC. 39677, 93d Cong. 1st Sess.

2. Carl Albert (OK).

1. See § 26.2, *infra*.